

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 078338

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078338

LIMDIS

REF: KIGALI 188, BANGUI 462, BANGUI 461

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 76278 ACTION KIGALI INFO
BUJUMBURA KINSHASA BEIRUT TRIPOLI BRUSSELS 4 APRIL.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076278

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,PLO,RW

SUBJECT: RWANDAN RECOGNITION PLO

REF: KIGALI 188

1. AS CITED REFTTEL PLO OFFICE WAS INVOLVED KHARTOUM TRAGEDY.
WE HAVE HAD REPORTS THAT PLO OFFICE IN EAST BERLIN MAY HAVE
BEEN INVOLVED IN PROVISION OF ARMS TO ARAB TERRORISTS IN
WEST GERMANY, ALTHOUGH THIS INTELLIGENCE IS NOT FIRM. WE
DID MAKE UNILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS TO THE SOVIETS ABOUT
OPENING OF PLO OFFICE IN EAST BERLIN, BUT DID NOT
ELICIT POSITIVE RESPONSE.

2. OUR CURRENT ASSESSMENT IS THAT PLO OFFICES IN EAST
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PAGE 02 STATE 078338

BERLIN AND ELSEWHERE ARE BEING CIRCUMSPECT. IN RECENT PAST

PLO HAS NORMALLY BEEN CAREFUL TO AVOID VIOLATIONS OF ITS OFFICIAL STATUS AND HAS DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM TERRORIST/SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY SPLINTER GROUPS SUCH AS PFLP ETC. FOREGOING OF COURSE DOES NOT APPLY TO TERRORIST ACTS WITHIN ISRAEL ITSELF FOR WHICH PLO TAKES CREDIT-E.G. RECENT SAVOY HOTEL ATTACK IN TEL AVIV.

3. ALSO, AS EMBASSY MAY BE AWARE, THERE HAS BEEN A PLO OFFICE IN NEW YORK FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS, ANTEDATING PLO'S RECENT RECOGNITION BY THE UN. IF GOR KNOWS OF THIS OFFICE, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR EMBASSY TO PERSUADE GOR THAT USG PERCEIVES REAL THREAT TO SECURITY IN ESTABLISHMENT OF PLO OFFICE IN KIGALI.

4. ON OTHER SIDE OF COIN, WE NOTE RECENT THREAT BY FATAH SPOKESMAN ZUHAYR MUHSIN THAT PLO RESERVED RIGHT TO ATTACK ISRAELI TARGETS "IN JAPAN, THE US OR ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD."

5. WE THINK YOUR TACTIC OF URGING DELAY IS BEST ONE TO USE. IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH NSEKALIJE AND LIZINDE YOU SHOULD PURSUE THIS IN A LOW KEY FASHION, POINTING OUT THAT SUCH STATEMENTS AS THE ONE MADE BY MUHSIN ARE NOT REASSURING AND THAT GOR WILL BE BORROWING TROUBLE BY PERMITTING PLO TO OPERATE IN RWANDA. REALISTICALLY BEST WE CAN EXPECT FROM GOR IS AGREEMENT TO DO NOTHING POSITIVE TOWARD PLO AND SIMPLY WAIT FOR PLO TO MAKE THE NEXT MOVE. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE

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